

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/782,052

Applicant(s)

GOODWIN ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Kuen S. Lu

2167

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 1/29/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-6, 9-15 and 17-31 (renumbered to 1-28).
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 3/26/2007.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114.
2. This action is responsive to Applicant's Amendment filed January 29, 2007 and it is acknowledged claims 1, 10, 14, 17-18, 21 and 29 were amended and claims 7-8 and 16 were cancelled. Examiner's 35 U.S.C. § 101 rejections to claims 1-31 made in the Final Rejection of December 7, 2006 is hereby withdrawn, as necessitated by the Amendment.
3. After a thorough search and examination of the present application, and in light of the prior art made of record, Applicant's Amendment and Remarks filed January 29, 2007 and Examiner's amendments made March 26, 2007, Claims 1-6, 9-15 and 17-31 (renumbered to 1-28) are allowed.

Examiner's Amendments

4. Authorization for this Examiner's amendment, listed below, was given in telephone interview with inventor, Mr. Lance R. Sadler (Registration 38,605) on March 26, 2007 for amending claims 1, 10-15, 17-21 and 29-31. The summary of interview conducted on March 26, 2007 is attached.

4.1. Please amend Claims 1, 10-15, 17-21 and 29-31 as follow:

1. (Currently Amended) A system for managing changes in state of a navigation-based application, comprising:

a local computer implemented journal engine for maintaining a journal,

wherein the journal ~~being~~ is associated with a container that navigates to and hosts a resource, and the resource ~~including~~ includes a mechanism ~~for causing to be stored in the journal a journal entry that~~ stores a journal entry in the journal,

wherein the journal entry includes information about a change in state of the resource, and the journal entry ~~being operative to restore~~ restores the resource to the state prior to the change,

wherein the journal maintains navigation-related information about locations to which a user has navigated and ~~is configured to provide~~ provides users backward and forward access to:

(1) navigation activities in which the user has navigated backward and forward through distinct resources, and

(2) activities where a user has not conducted a physical navigation away from a resource but rather has changed a state of a resource,

wherein the backward and forward access is implemented using stack-based techniques, wherein:

individual journal entries ~~can be~~ are replayed to return a new journal entry that undoes a previously-performed action, wherein:

if a the new journal entry is being replayed as a result of a backward navigation, an associated returned journal entry is placed in a forward stack, and

if the new journal entry is being replayed as a result of a forward navigation, an associated returned journal entry is placed in a back stack.

10. (Currently Amended) A ~~computer-readable medium having~~ plurality of computer executable components embodied on a computer-readable storage medium for managing changes in state of a navigation based application, the plurality of computer executable components comprising:

a resource including a mechanism for altering a state of the resource from a first state to a second state; and

~~a description of a journal entry~~ an instance of a journal entry class having a **method** for restoring the resource from the first state to the second state,

wherein the method ~~being further configured to creates~~ a second journal entry to undo the restoration of the resource from the first state to the second state,

wherein the method adds to a forward stack when the method is called on a back navigation, and adds to a back stack when the method is called on a forward navigation,

wherein the journal entry comprises part of a Journal that maintains navigation-related information about locations to which a user has navigated and resources whose state has been changed by the user, and provides users backward and forward access to:

(1) navigation activities in which the user has navigated backward and forward through distinct resources, and

(2) activities where a user has not conducted a physical navigation away from a resource but rather has changed a state of a resource,

wherein the backward and forward access is implemented using stack-based techniques, wherein:

individual journal entries can be are replayed to return a new journal entry that undoes a previously-performed action, wherein:

if the new journal entry is being replayed as a result of a backward navigation, an associated returned journal entry is placed in a forward stack, and

if the new journal entry is being replayed as a result of a forward navigation, an associated returned journal entry is placed in a back stack.

11. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 10, wherein the resource is further configured to cause the journal entry to be added to a journal that includes information about navigations among a plurality of resources.

12. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 10, wherein the resource is a component of the navigation-based application.

13. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 10, wherein the navigation-based application includes a plurality of resources that are hyperlinked together.

14. (Currently Amended) A ~~computer-readable medium encoded with a~~ data structure embodied on a computer-readable storage medium, the data structure comprising:

a journal entry having a Replay method, the Replay method ~~being configured to~~ restores a resource from a first state to a second state, the Replay method ~~being further configured to create~~ a second journal entry to restore the resource from the second state to the first state,

wherein the journal maintains navigation-related information about locations to which a user has navigated and ~~is configured to provide~~ users backward and forward access to:

(1) navigation activities in which the user has navigated backward and forward through distinct resources, and

(2) activities where a user has not conducted a physical navigation away from a resource but rather has changed a state of a resource,

wherein the backward and forward access is implemented using stack-based techniques, wherein:

individual journal entries ~~can be~~ are replayed to return a new journal entry that undoes a previously-performed action, wherein:

if a the new journal entry is being replayed as a result of a backward navigation, an associated returned journal entry is placed in a forward stack, and

if the new journal entry is being replayed as a result of a forward navigation, an associated returned journal entry is placed in a back stack.

15. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 14, wherein the resource comprises a component of a navigation-based application.

17. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 14, wherein the journal is associated with a window of a navigation based application.

18. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 14, wherein the journal is associated with a session.

19. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 18, wherein the session comprises a browser session.

20. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 18, wherein the session comprises a lifetime of the navigation-based application.

21. (Currently Amended) A software architecture embodied on a computer-readable storage medium for managing changes in state of a navigation-based application, the software architecture comprising:

an internal system that supports the maintenance of entries in a journal, the journal ~~being operative to~~ maintains state information related to navigations among resources in a navigation-based application; and

a set of interfaces that support the inclusion of entries in the journal, the journal entries ~~being~~ are related to non-navigation activity,

wherein the journal maintains navigation-related information about locations to which a user has navigated and ~~is configured to provide~~ users backward and forward access to:

(1) navigation activities in which the user has navigated backward and forward through distinct resources, and

(2) activities where a user has not conducted a physical navigation away from a resource but rather has changed a state of a resource,

wherein the backward and forward access is implemented using stack-based techniques, wherein:

individual journal entries ~~can be~~ are replayed to return a new journal entry that undoes a previously-performed action, wherein:

if a the new journal entry is being replayed as a result of a backward navigation, an associated returned journal entry is placed in a forward stack, and

if the new journal entry is being replayed as a result of a forward navigation, an associated returned journal entry is placed in a back stack.

29. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium encoded with ~~computer-executable~~ instructions executing on a computer, perform steps comprising:

receiving a notification to add a journal entry to a journal, the journal entry ~~being~~ is associated with a resource, ~~and the resource including~~ includes sufficient information to restore the resource from a first state to a second state, wherein

the first state ~~being~~ is associated with a first set of characteristics of the resource, ~~and the second state being~~ is associated with a second set of characteristics of the resource; and

adding the journal entry to the journal,

wherein the journal maintains navigation-related information about locations to which a user has navigated and ~~is configured to provide~~ provides users backward and forward access to:

(1) navigation activities in which the user has navigated backward and forward through distinct resources, and

(2) activities where a user has not conducted a physical navigation away from a resource but rather has changed a state of a resource,

wherein the backward and forward access is implemented using stack-based techniques, wherein:

individual journal entries ~~can be~~ are replayed to return a new journal entry that undoes a previously-performed action, wherein:

if a the new journal entry is being replayed as a result of a backward navigation, an associated returned journal entry is placed in a forward stack, and

if the new journal entry is being replayed as a result of a forward navigation, an associated returned journal entry is placed in a back stack.

30. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 29, wherein the journal entry further comprises a mechanism for restoring the resource from the second state to the first state.

31. (Currently Amended I) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 30, wherein the mechanism is configured to create a second journal entry having sufficient information to restore the resource from the second state to the first state.

Reasons For Allowance

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

In the Examiner's Office Action for Final Rejection of December 7, 2006, 35 U.S.C. § 102, rejections to claims 1-31 as being unpatentable was made as anticipated by Sayers et al.: "DOCEMENT AGENTS", U.S. Patent Application 2004/0205574, published 10/14/2004 (hereafter "Sayers").

In the Remarks filed on January 29, 2007, concerning claims 1-31, Applicant agreed to amend claims 1, 10, 14, 17-18, 21 and 29 and cancel claims 7-8 and 16 to overcome the teaching of Sayers. After further consideration of Applicant's amendments made to the claims, and Examiner's Amendment made to claims 1, 10-15, 17-21 and 29-31, Examiner is persuaded that the mostly recently amended claims, which include the below highlighted combined subject matter as described in each independent claims 1, 10, 14, 21 and 29, have overcome the teaching of the cited Sayers reference.

the journal maintains navigation-related information about locations to which a user has navigated and provides users backward and forward access to:

(1) navigation activities in which the user has navigated backward and forward through distinct resources, and

(2) activities where a user has not conducted a physical navigation away from a resource but rather has changed a state of a resource,

**wherein the backward and forward access is implemented using
stack-based techniques, wherein:**

**individual journal entries are replayed to return a new journal entry
that undoes a previously-performed action, wherein:**

**if the new journal entry is being replayed as a result of a backward
navigation, an associated returned journal entry is placed in a forward stack, and
if the new journal entry is being replayed as a result of a forward
navigation, an associated returned journal entry is placed in a back stack.**

An updated search for the prior arts on EAST database and on domains (NPL-ACM, Google, NPL-IEEE) has been conducted. The prior arts searched and investigated in the database and domains does not fairly teach or suggest the teaching of the newly amended claimed subject matter as described above and reflected by the combined elements in each of the independent claims 1, 10, 14, 21 and 29.

The dependent claim(s) in the groups (2-6 and 9), (11-15 and 17-20), (22-28) and (30-31), depending directly or indirectly upon claims 1, 10, 14, 21 and 29, respectively, are also distinct from the prior art for the same reason.

6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

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accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Contact Information

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kuen S. Lu whose telephone number is (571) 272-4114. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (8:00 am-5:00 pm). If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's Supervisor, John Cottingham can be reached on (571) 272-7079. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for Page 13 published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, please call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2167

March 26, 2007



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